

THE G. H.  
REPLICATION,

Or Certain

Vindictory Depositions,

Occasioned by way of Answer, to the  
Various Aspersions, and False Reports of  
Ignorant and Malicious Tongues, and the Prin-  
ted Sheets and Pamphlets of Base  
DETRACTORS,

Concerning the Late Acted

CHEAT.

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Written by *Iohn Carleton* of the Middle  
Temple *London*, Gent.

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Printed by the Authors Appointment in  
the Year, 1663.

Judicious Reader,

**I** Am not Ignorant, (though I have been willingly silent) of the Various Rumours, Reports, Stories, Fancies, daily circulating Fables, and Proteus Shapes wherein the Different Humours, and various Opinions of the World bring forth the late acted Project, and Cheat. And though I might be justly angry with some, yet I scorn to take notice of any. For should I begin to undress all these prodigious shapes, and set them out singly in the naked truth, into what a Confused Chaos should I bring my self? How endlesse should I make my sufferings? how many years might I lead my life in discontent, before I could hear, answer and satisfy the many Niceties, Questions, Curiosities and Objections of the Giddy-headed Vulgar. Qui non ad veritatem rei, sed ad opinionem propiciunt. I am satisfied, that as a little time will make a distinction between the report and the reality, so it will put a conclusion to both, by burying them in Oblivion.

I shall not give my self the trouble to recollect and declare the several motives Alts, Inducements, and protestations so often and so highly expressed, by that (Wise enough indeed, but) deceitful Woman, that provoked and stirred up that faith and credit in me, as to enter the list of sacred Matrimony. Neither shall I go about to vindicate my self much (for that the Law will do) or greatly to vilify her, that her infamous Actions will best make appear. Nor shall I endeavour to procure a great Credit in any one, especially in such whose narrow soul and single threaded faith, cannot believe the Vindicative Oath of a Christian; Which I dare take to my Assertion that I shall modestly, and I protest without any thing of singularity, or Affectation, hereafter lay down, concerning the reality of my Intentions and Actions; Neither will my troubled thoughts, (Courteous Reader) give me leave to look at the lofty style, nay not time to salute the Garment of that Noble pleading and Worthy Orator Cicero: And indeed it best becomes truth to be naked, and glosses of Eloquence, in some peevish Humours, might invoke jealousies of the intended reality; but as I respect the least approbation of the Wise and Judicious, so I neglect and disdain the greatest censure of the Ignorant and Malicious. I seek for no ones soothing applause, nor I care for no persons rigorous censure; I only beg every Ingenious Reader (to whose settled and discerning Judgments I submit) to make a Charitable Constriction, and to passe by all errors you may without doubt find in this little Book, which my Discomposed judgment will not at this time permit me to see; And I may say of these lines, as discontented Ovid said of his Verses.

Lib. 1. Eleg. 1. Ovid Trist.

Carmina proveniunt animo deducta sereno,  
Nubila sunt subitis, tempera nostra malis.

But I hope and wish for a greater serenity, and do expect a calm after this Storm, and then (Worthy Reader) I shall be ready not only to acknowledge and blush at all faults, but to correct and amend them.

Qui non est hodie, cras magis aptus erit.

Yours in all Friend-ship,

JOHN CARLETON.

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Cicero was wont to say,

*Non Recte amat Uxorem, qui corpus amat potius quam animum.*

That is,

He doth not love his second self rightly, that loves the parts of her body, rather then the gifts of her Mind.

**M**Arriage is my Theam, and I cannot but look at Happinefs, and I think it is a very great Blessing; when the hand of Providence bestows on Mortals, a suitable conjunction of Vertuous and Good Conditions in VWed-lock, without which parity none can be really happy therein: And they know not what marriage is that onely know how to lust. I shall not stand to Comment, but will come nearer to my present Condition. I was unwilling to write at all, but I will not write much. It was my happy, unhappinefs, about the 25<sup>th</sup>. day of *March* last, accidentally to happen into the House, where that (in some things worthy) unworthy Woman was, she being in the Company of a Person or two of Honour; of whose being there when I was informed, I was willing to return an acknowledgment of my Gratefulnessse, for then late received Courtesies, It being the first oppertunity that was offered to me, after the receipt of them; Among whom also I was willing and did spend some time for a diversion. She; as She hath protested to many persons several times since, at my entring of the room, was suddenly possessed with a strange kind of an affectionate passion, and could not satisfy her self till she had made a strict enquiry who I was; nor did it cease there, for presently after She imployed a Friend of mine to desire the Continuance of my Company, as She hath since declared.

Here I thought good to insert the Original of our acquaintance, that

the world may the better perceive her cheating designe : though it hath pleased the scurrilous Scribler, that either hath no name, or else is ashamed of it, in a late Pamphlet to demonstrate a very great Friendship to that *Distressed Lady*, as his Pedantick Pen terms her ; and though he speaks without Book, as most, if not all do besides him ; yet he endeavours to make it credible that it was She that carried on a humour and my Relations with my self a Designe, which I deny on both sides, and here attest, that not any of them to whom I owe the Duty of a Son, or the Love of an own Brother, did ever see her until many dayes after Contraction, nay not untill three dayes before Marriage, and then never entertained any discourse to promote, but rather to hinder the Proceedings ; For She of her own accord, upon a Visit she gave them, told them of her Affection and Intention, and did Politickly and freely declare to them her Great Birth and Fortune. But to return to our first Acquaintance ; I understanding her Fancy, and finding those Excellent parts she was possessed with, could do no lesse, then poize things in my mind : And considering her Endowments, supposed that she wanted nothing that might cause a likeing, nor had she any Defect, that might procure a loathing. I pressed her to the Reason of her Fancy, She replied *Love gives none*. I minded her of the Inequality between mine, and her then thought High Descended Birth and Fortune : She Answered *Love knows none*. I Objected again, (she telling me, that she ever Related to me the least of both) and put Cases of great Danger, to be called in Question, beyond all Law ; She Replied, *Love knows no Lawes ; Let her Judgement alone to secure both*. Her Wit did more and more Charm me, Her Qualities deprived me of my own ; Her Courteous behaviour, Her Majestick Humility to all Persons, in all her Actions, Her Emphatical Speeches, Kind and Loving Expressions, and amongst other things, her High Derefestation and Checks to an untruth, though Jestingly uttered by any ; Her great Zeal to her Religion, her Modest Confidence, and Grace in all Companies, fearing the knowledge of none ; Her variety of Tongues ; Her neat limned, and ready answers to all, and all manner of Objections, that I, or the most Critical Person in the World, (without disparaging any ones Judgement) could in point of Honour, make and put to her, whereby to discover her, she would so Nobly, and Seriously Salve, that she left no room for Suspition ; Which did not onely work the belief in me, (that hath wrapped me in this present Misfortune) But also in many Persons of great Wisdome, Gravity, and Quality ; All which in a growing Acquaintance and Conversation, did

did encrease our Credit. She desired nothing of me but my Love, (And that She told me and others, was alwayes her intention to Marry a Private Gentleman, whom She could Love, that She might oblige him highly to love her by her Nobility and Estate; ) An Excellent bait indeed) And I thought She did nobly deserve that. She ever protested a Feruent Love, and I could not promise an unfaithful. And finding in her so Noble a Perfection, who could mistrust a real Affection and Intention? None but did Esteem her Pearlesse in all qualities of mind. Who could have called her Honour and Honesty into question, when they both, (I must say seemingly) were so great? But the Scene was soon changed, though I could not so soon believe it. And in a strange manner there was a suddain discovery of the truth, which is too long a story to insert here, though in a short time it was made appear that She was such a cheating person, as before a Majestrate She was proved to be. Such a suddain alteration, might (like those that looked on *Medusæ's* Head) have turned me into a Stone; I could hardly put out my former belief; Nay I protest, when I seriously reflect on all the passages of her former Expressions & Actions (not in the least thinking of the last Act) I can believe still; For what person living, that is a Christian, or bears the name only, or knows the meaning of that title (which She in a High manner did own) Nay, what *Turk*, *Jew*, *Infidel* or *Heathen* that sees, wonders at, and Worships the Sun, Moon and Stars, and that never heard the Name of the Great *Jehovah*, could Counterfeit and Religiously glosse over so many haynous and detestable Crimes, without fear of a suddain and mighty Judgement? Sure she thought to Hood-wink Divine Providence: The Devil himself, that old Sophister, might be cheated by her, but that he is so well acquainted with her; Without doubt he would have trembled to have invoked those Direful Judgements which She wisht might befall her, upon clearing some doubts, if such things were not true, which are as false as God is true. And amongst all her Protestations I will name only one, which was the onely thing we desired to know the truth of, that was this, upon the Attestation of one or two strangers to us, who upon the first sight knew her, she having lodged at their Houses; they related of her several Husbands she had living; We pressed her to speak the truth, and in the presence of several persons upon her knees, she wisht for a sudden Judgement to befall her, and that she might Eternally hang in Hell (for so were her words) if ever she was Contracted, Married to, or knew any man besides my self. Oh Miserable Creature! I hear so many things dayly of her of truth enough, that I thinke

she hath the best part of a score, and she hath enjoyed the best part of a  
 Hundred persons of good Worth, and others: I dare not say whether, least  
 I run into extreams; it is enough, I now find her Honour, and Honour,  
 her Protestations Pretences, her Faithfulness Fickleness; and though  
 her Policy did undermine me, her practises will over-throw her self.  
 Who would have imagined that deceit, the Devils great bait, should  
 have lodged here, or that so Noble a mind (though She hath basely  
 Acted) should descend of such an Ignoble Race, or that so great and  
 Discerning a Capacity should proceed of so base and undeserving Pro-  
 geny? Base indeed, for her Father in Law (her grand Agent and  
 factor) did in the presence of a person of quality, and another Gentle-  
 man and myself, upon our entring into discourse of the News of *Lon-*  
*don*, when we left it, and of the great Chear, and so proceeding in the  
 story of it, he fell into such a great rage, and said, *It was no News to him,*  
*for he was in Town all along, and was with her in the Prison that day she*  
*was Committed*, and declared her Name, and that She was his Daughter  
*in Law*, for it will be known said he; That unworthy low spirited,  
 though hot sottish-headed fellow deserves a further strict Examination.  
 I need not relate where he lives, nor what he is, former Prints speak  
 truth in that. But to return to her, the World still finds in her the  
 same Wit, and they will shortly find lesse honesty then any did Ima-  
 gine: would She had lesse Wit, and I better fortune, but though my won  
 affections have stung my self and fortunes, they shall kill neither. Had  
 she been but honest, I should have taken her discourses of Nobility and  
 Wealth, but as a near Romance to glosse over the want of a happy be-  
 ing, which my Relations and my self did really inform her, she should  
 have, could she vindicate and prove her honesty. Would her High  
 pretended Honour had been but reall intended honesty. I am not  
 alone in the Cheats of Marriage, (for I believe scarce one in twenty  
 proves true, and answers all Expectations) though perhaps not in so  
 high a nature. There are many Presidents higher then this, nay more  
 then I mean to recollect: *Menalass* after his ten years War won but a  
 Brumper, There is nothing new under the Sun, though new to them  
 that suffer it. I can now shake hands with my Old Grand-fire *Adam*,  
 and say with him, *The Woman beguiled me, and I did, &c.* I could  
 pity her rather then punish her, and yet the Law must punish her, be-  
 cause she did not pity her self, knowing how narrowly she hath esca-  
 ped the Execution of Judgement after her former Tryall. The  
 surest fly is soonest taken in the spiders Web. Indeed she weaved a  
 fine one to catch me, it is well if she hangs not her self in it. I trust-  
 ing



ing to her outward self, was betray'd by her inward treachery. But though she hath overcome me; and the chiefest Victory was mine, that I can overcome my self, and prevent the dangerous consequences and sad effects that unhappy accidents and discontent's might cause. My sorrow though it be angry I can salve it; And indeed, as it argues much folly in any person to let the Afflictions and Censures of the World come so near ones heart, as to let out or inflame ones blood, so it is a great part of wisdom in my Estimation to suffer admittance so near as to raise ones spirits to understand an affliction by a serious consideration and reflexion. How mixed with mercies, and in the Highest way we Mortals can retaliate, (if I may so speak) to return and expresse a holy gratitude to Divine protection: for we must so bear our afflictions, that as our grief may not utterly deject us, so we must have the sense to feel and apprehend it: All the actions of a mans life, are mixt with bitter ingredients, like Chequer-work, black and white. There is no armour against our fates, and they are as uncertain as unevitable. I am contented with mine, and I hope now the bitter part of my fortune is past, I may once taste the sweet; if not, I shall be contented, knowing from whose hand it comes; I am satisfied, that as I have done nothing dishonestly, so I care for no reports.

Cic. *Qui injuriam faciunt infeliciores sunt quam qui patiuntur.*

It is better to be Passive then Active in an Injury.

**B**ut I have exceeded my Intention, and unless I mean to make a Chronicle of the whole, must stop all further expression. And here I would end, but upon second thoughts, in point of Reputation, I find my self engaged highly, to take greater notice of abuses done to others my Acquaintance then to my self; and now I must be angry, for it concerns me to be so, and it should quickly be seen that the fancy pen of that Audacious and Injurious Libeller should soon be cut by several persons, were it but known where that Corrupted and Diseased soul hath its being, which shall not want for a strict enquiry. I wonder how he durst presume to insert in his Libel termed (*The Ladies Vindication*) the name of that Virtuous and Noble Lady which I will not here denominate. The Salt-water Grave Cox-comb hath published it too much already; Or that his Confidence should permit him to discover any thing of her Actions in *Hide-Park*, which though there may be  
some

some little thing of truth, yet it is falsely set out. And indeed I am much troubled that that deceitful woman, to whom I then thought my self Related, knowing her own Condition, should offer to play upon that Worthy Ladies Civility. And I cannot but take notice that this base Detractor should be so impudent as to throw a dart against that deserving Gentleman my Friend, that performed the sacred Office of Matrimony. I am not willing to insert any ones Name, you may understand me by description. Who prompt him to insert the report of a double Marriage? And that Politick lye of so great a gratuity as fifteen pounds; I will not satisfie his weak brain what it was, it is enough to let him know that my friend was satisfied, and I did so much as became a Gentleman.

Lastly, I will clear but one thing more as to her Name, by which she was Contracted and Married to me, which was *Henrietta Maria De Wollway*, though she hath since learned so much Confidence as to deny it, or else some one for her; And here I make a full stop, wishing all the World better fortune.

*Si Populum vult dicipi Decipiatnr.*

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FINIS.

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